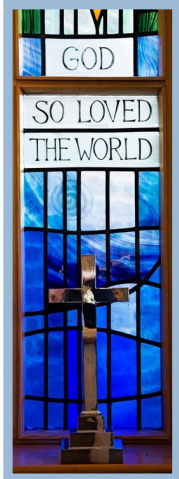


# Dore Methodist Church



Magazine of The Church on the High Street



## Happy New Year!

### In this issue:

Action for Children	p 4
Annual meeting	p 4
Covenant	p 3
New Minister	p 2
Methodist disciples	p 7
Tim Crome	p 2

Thank you for your helpful and positive comments about our first new style magazine, we are glad you enjoyed reading it. If you ever have anything you want to put in a future edition please don't hesitate to get in touch. Our contact details are on the back page.



### 'Love came down at Christmas...'

The Lantern Parade took over the streets in the centre of Dore on 1st December; an exciting start to Christmas! It was lovely to see so many people in our hall enjoying a hot drink and mince pies.



We enjoyed singing carols and listening to the story of Christmas unfold during our annual Candlelit Carol Service.

Our Worship Team have been busy this Christmas organising many of our services, thank you.



A group of Carol singers visited two local venues the week before Christmas. Glorious carol singing was heard from members of our church alongside residents at The Hollis and Fairthorn.



### A message from The Rev. Tim Crome:



Dear friends,

Turning the page into another New Year is always full of possibilities and fears. What will 2018 bring us? Sometimes we can know some things that will come our way, we are expecting to become grandparents again. But most of the time life comes at us with surprise, and sometimes anxiety at what might happen and at other times real fear.

For us at Dore Methodist Church, we already know that changes are afoot. As I change my focus to look after other churches, we find ourselves in an in between place. We are fortunate to have the Rev Dave Markay to support us in this time. But of course we also have the good news that The Rev Gail Hunt will be our minister from September. So in the midst of uncertainty we do have a hope and vision for the future.

For us to have a minister who lives and works in Dore and Topley, makes sense and brings lots of potential for us to develop our mission with our neighbouring churches. Yes, it will be different, but the potential is exciting.

I do wish to express my gratitude to you all for the time I have been with you. I have always felt a warmth of welcome, a willingness to listen and to explore new ways of being faithful disciples and above all a desire to discuss and reflect on matters of faith and life. I am going to miss you, but of course I am not far away and am always open to invitations.

I wish you all a good 2018, may you continue to discover and celebrate the reality of God in the midst of life.

Peace

### Appointment of new Minister

We are pleased to report that following a visit to Topley Rise and Dore Methodist Churches, The Rev. Gail Hunt (pictured right with her husband Deacon David Hunt) agreed to accept the Circuit's invitation to join us in September 2018. This appointment is subject to final ratification at the Methodist Conference at the end of June. Gail is currently Minister at Knaresborough in the Nidd Valley Circuit.



### Operation Christmas Child

This year a total of 53 boxes and two carrier bags of extras along with donations of money have been sent to this appeal. Thank you.



**Services at Fairthorn, Townhead Road - all start at 10.30 am**

Services last for about 40 minutes and include hymns, prayers, reading and a short message for residents of Fairthorn and local Dore residents

**Thursday 11th January and Wednesday 14th February**

## Happy new 'Methodist Year'!

On January 7th we will celebrate our annual covenant with God.

The Covenant Service goes back to John Wesley's time. He wanted a form of worship which would help people open themselves to God more fully. In 1755 Wesley created such a service, using material from the writings of the seventeenth-century puritans, Joseph and Richard Alleine. Over succeeding generations the Methodist Church has made changes to the service so that it continues to be relevant to congregations using it.

The aim of the service is to help people hear God's offer and God's challenge; to provide space for God to prompt and for people to respond. Yet, more than this, for the Covenant Service is not just a one-to-one transaction between individuals and God, it is an act of the whole faith community. Both the Covenant Prayer and Service are regarded as jewels of Methodism and one of the most distinctive contributions of Methodism to the liturgy of the Church in general. Other churches are now discovering it and making use of it in their worshipping life.

### **The Covenant Prayer**

*I am no longer my own but yours.*

*Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;*

*put me to doing, put me to suffering;*

*let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you;*

*let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing;*

*I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.*

*And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours.*

*And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.      Amen.*

## Homeless Jesus in Glasgow

A figure lying on a park bench, shrouded in a ragged blanket which covers the head and face, but with bare feet showing... It might seem an unusual subject for a sculpture. Look closely, though, and notice that the feet bear the marks of having been pierced by nails. This homeless man lying on a bench is Jesus. The sculpture was created by Canadian sculptor Timothy Schmalz who, since 2013, has been seeking locations around the world for castings of the "Homeless Jesus". Castings of the life-size statue have been placed in cities worldwide since 2013, although some churches have refused to display it. Through his art he intentionally illustrates the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40; "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are my family, you did it to me".



The most recent sculpture was unveiled in Glasgow city centre on 7th December. There is space at the end of the bench to stop and sit for a while... to keep Jesus company perhaps, to pray, to express concern at the existence of such widespread homelessness in a "land of plenty". Whether people do this or simply walk on by, Glasgow's "Homeless Jesus" will convey its intended message with challenge and dignity.

## General Church Meeting

Our General Church Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December was chaired by Rev Time Crome, and attended by 23 members. In his introduction Tim referred to our current feelings of uncertainty about the next few months when pastoral oversight would be limited, as well as anticipation of the arrival of a new Minister in September next year. Specific items discussed included:

- Following the decision earlier in the year to cease Communion Collections concern was expressed at the effects of this on the charities which we previously supported. It was agreed that the Church Stewards would review this issue and take a proposal to the March Church Council meeting.
- Janet Barraclough and Daphne Willie will be standing down as Church Stewards at the end of April. They were both thanked for all their hard work in this role. Peter Beardsell had agreed to become a Steward from 1<sup>st</sup> May and he was duly appointed by the meeting. There is still a vacancy for another Steward and anyone interested should speak to Nigel Thomas.
- It was felt that the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday were unsatisfactory this year.
- Annual Reports from church groups for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 were received. Comment was passed on the wide range of church activities undertaken by our members. (Copies of the Annual Report are available in the Vestibule.)
- Our membership currently stands at 56.
- Safeguarding training had been undertaken by those members who required it. Brian McCarthy is standing down as our Safeguarding Officer.
- Disappointment was expressed at the number of services over Christmas which needed to be arranged and led by church members. Thanks, was expressed to all who had agreed to be involved with these services.

The 2018 General Church Meeting is scheduled to be held at 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November.



## Once again we were pleased to offer our collection on Christmas Day to Action for Children.

Action for Children helps disadvantaged children from before they are born until they are into their twenties. Their work includes:

- Help through fostering and adoption
- Help by intervening early to stop neglect and abuse with 7,000 staff and volunteers operating over 600 services
- Improving the lives of 390,000 children, teenagers, parents and carers every year

Methodist supporters in the UK raised over £1.2 million during 2016/2017 through special services on Action for Children Sunday and at Christmas, and through home collection boxes and supporter group activities.

When Methodist minister Thomas Bowman Stephenson saw children living rough under the arches of Waterloo station in London, he decided he had to act. A century and a half later, the spirit of this founder remains the inspiration of Action for Children. Their mission is to do what's right, do what's needed, and do what works for children.

**Book this date in your diary: Action for Children Coffee Morning in our hall on  
Saturday 3rd February 10.00 am to 12 noon**

## Tea, Talk & Tunes for Toddlers News

Parents, carers and their children meet on a Monday morning in our hall from 10.00.am until 11.30 a.m.

Rosemary Thomas and Daphne Willie set up the group quite a few years ago and have been very pleased at the way 4T's has developed. 20-25 toddlers come along every week and of course they are accompanied by their parents/carers. There are actually about 34 on the books but they don't come every week.

Janet Barraclough, Janet Clitherow, Jackie Bailey and Margaret Millican are regular helpers. Janet and Kath Marshall accompany the singing session on the piano and Peggy Wager organises the drinks. Thank you to all members who have helped and those who have given toys, books which have helped very much.

The children play when they arrive which always includes a craft activity and then they enjoy about 25 minutes

of singing. It has been really good that the parents sing with them and have taught the helpers some new words to some songs. The toddlers love the bubbles at the end of the singing session! This is followed by a drink and a biscuit, toddlers sitting down on the floor, and then they play again with the toys until 11.30a.m. The older children are invited to listen to a story in the vestry.

The parents also have time to talk together which has been very good particularly as there has been a number of families who have recently moved into Dore.

The Rev. David Willie has given great support and provided a religious story at both Christmas and Easter which has been well received by the parents and toddlers. This year The Rev. Tim Crome popped in to read the Christmas story.



Please let any families newly arrived in Dore all about our popular 4Ts—it's lots of fun!



## Meetings in January and December

### Monday Fellowship at 2.30 pm

January 15th 'Christmas Memories' - Bring a present or card to show or tell us about a special Christmas memory

January 29th Beetle Drive

February 12th 'Sing-Song' with Pam

### Tuesday Group at 7.30 pm

January 9th 'Baby Basics' a talk about the Tuesday Group's Charity of the Year by Hannah Peck

February 13th 'Sheffielders on Holiday' with Suzanne Bingham

### Word Search—Bible Characters of the New Testament

G S W O E A Q  
 Z I U W E H L X O  
 C U Y E F T F U R T D  
 W I C H A W M B A E S R K  
 J O H N T H E B A P T I S T V  
 G O D D J O C K H R S E R M J J H  
 H R S I A O M C U S T E P H E N U B J  
 O P E W N A I A L A H Y D C A I D Y L  
 H C P P I S T Z S C O A W S U I A G G  
 J R H I C B L C E R L M X U J Z S W R  
 C R Q L O N A Q E O O Q T S N M J E L  
 F B W A D F Z F S D M S E E K U P Y P  
 V F H T E B A Z I L E P N J V Z F U E  
 O Z E M I R D R M W T S Q R K U C  
 Z G U K U M A T T H E W E W D  
 S S A S P H I L E M O N S  
 G Y E A P T Y R A M M  
 V Q C W U O O J T  
 L M H S E D R

BARTHOLOMEW DORCAS ELIZABETH GAIUS GOD HEROD JAMES  
 JESUS CHRIST JOHN JOHN THE BAPTIST JOSEPH JUDAS LAZARUS LUKE  
 LYDIA MARY MATTHEW NICODEMUS PAUL PETER PHARISEES PHILEMON  
 PILATE STEPHEN TIMOTHY TITUS WIDOW ZACCHAEUS

## It's Time to Create New Methodist Disciples

The Methodist Conference this year received the report on Statistics for Mission which included facts such as:

- The total membership of Methodists in Great Britain was 188,000 as at October 31st 2016
- Just three in every thousand people are members of Methodist churches, compared with just over four-and-a-half 10 years ago

There is an uneven distribution of Methodists around the country e.g. :

- 1% of residents in Cornwall, Devon, the North, certain circuits in Lincolnshire and elsewhere in the East Midlands are Methodists
- Less than 0.2% or even 0.1% in Scotland, London and the South East are Methodists

The main challenge to membership numbers is recruitment. There are 589 churches that are growing through recruitment (i.e. where new members exceed deaths) of which 350 are growing overall.

Conference recognised the most significant corporate risk facing the Methodist Church in Great Britain of an "inability to create new Methodist disciples" and has:

1. called Methodist members to enthusiasm in prayer and acts of personal evangelism
2. called Methodist churches to direct their work and wealth to the priority of making new disciples
3. called Methodist circuits to resource the forming of new Methodist societies wherever possible, to offer witness and worship in new places, or in places where Christian presence has long since diminished



**WORK Ltd have an online shop!** WORK Ltd aim to provide a friendly, encouraging and rewarding environment. They create opportunities for people with learning disabilities to develop life skills which helps to build confidence and self esteem. They offer hands on work projects to develop life skills for learning disabled adults aged 16+. Activities include woodwork, gardening, textiles, arts & crafts, nature walks, sports, dance, music and drama. At WORK Ltd, they believe a caring, supportive and rewarding environment encourages their students to reach their full potential. It's worth visiting the Hidden Gem Café and Garden Centre at WORK Ltd on Ringinglow Road. Or you may want to shop online at [https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/WorkLtd?ref=shop\\_sugg](https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/WorkLtd?ref=shop_sugg)

WORK Ltd (Off Folkwood Grove),  
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Ringinglow Road, Sheffield  
S11 7TB



We're on the web!

[www.doremethodist.org.uk](http://www.doremethodist.org.uk)



#### Church Stewards:

Nigel Thomas

Janet Barraclough

Jackie Bailey

Daphne Willie

We hope you enjoy reading our magazine.

**The next edition will be in March.** If you would like to include any thing in a future magazine please contact Bridget Ball or John Bailey in person or email [b.c.b@btinternet.com](mailto:b.c.b@btinternet.com) or [john.bailey23a@btinternet.com](mailto:john.bailey23a@btinternet.com)

You will find Dore Methodist Church a place of **WELCOME, BELONGING** and **BELIEVING, ACCEPTANCE, LOVE, FORGIVENESS** and a place of **COMMUNITY** with caring people who will help you discover more of God's love and purpose for your own life.

### Morning Worship at Dore Methodist Church

All are invited on

**Sunday mornings at 10.30 am**

Followed by coffee or tea and a time to chat in the hall

### Regular Church Activities

#### Monday

Tea, Talk and Tunes for Toddlers (4Ts) from 10.00 am to 11.30 am during term time in our hall. For pre-school children with their carers.

The Monday Fellowship meets in the church hall on alternate Mondays at 2.30 pm with a variety of talks and occasional outings.

The Crafty Club meets alternate Mondays 2.30 pm to 4.00 pm for those who enjoy making things over a cup of tea and a chat.

#### Tuesday

The Tuesday Group meets fortnightly at 7.30 pm with a varied programme of speakers. Ladies of all ages welcome.

Men's Steak Night meets on the third Tuesday of each month for church members and guests.

#### Wednesday

Senior Citizens Luncheon Club provides a warm welcome with coffee and lunch.

#### Thursday

A bible discussion group known as the Focus Group meets fortnightly. These friendly informal meetings are held in the homes of the members of the group.

**Our premises are also used by various other local groups including:** Dore Mercia Townswomen's Guild; Dore Probus Club; Rainbows; Brownies; Dore Village Society and Dore Gardening Club.



**Dore Methodist Church, High Street, Dore, S17 3GU**